

# Fibers of Maps to Totally Nonnegative Spaces

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- joint work with Tim Davis  
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- slides at: [https://pages.uoregon.  
edu/plhersh/MIT-Dec5-2025.pdf](https://pages.uoregon.edu/plhersh/MIT-Dec5-2025.pdf)

Defn: A real matrix is **totally nonnegative (TNN)** if all its minors are nonnegative.

Thm (Anne Whitney in type A, generalized vastly by Lusztig)

The unipotent TNN matrices

$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & 0 & 1 & \\ & & & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \right\}$  are products of exponentiated Chevalley generators

how these look in type A

$$x_i(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & t & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ for } t \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

type A

← row i

↑ column i+1

Today: When are products of  $x_i(t)$ 's equal? (in a certain sense)

Map whose fibers we study:

$$f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)} : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^d \rightarrow TNN(\underbrace{U_n}_{\text{unipotent radical}})$$

$$(t_1, \dots, t_d) \mapsto x_{i_1}(t_1) x_{i_2}(t_2) \dots x_{i_d}(t_d)$$

e.g.  $f_{(1,2,1,2,1)}(t_1, \dots, t_5) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 + t_3 + t_5 & t_1 t_2 + t_1 t_4 + t_3 t_4 \\ & 1 & t_2 + t_4 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$   
 nonreduced word in  $S_3$

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{x_1(t_1)} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_2 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{x_2(t_2)} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_3 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{x_1(t_3)} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_4 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{x_2(t_4)} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_5 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{x_1(t_5)}$$

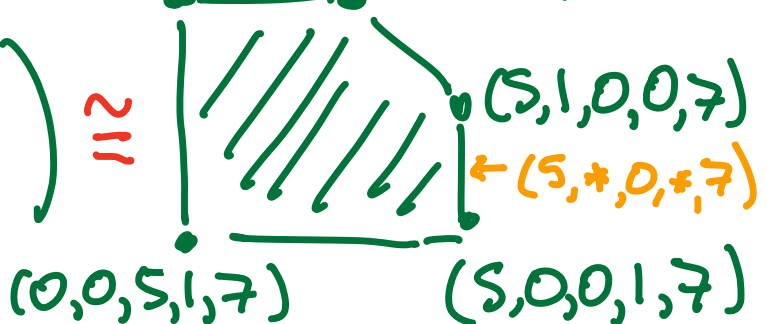
Example of a fiber

$$\subset \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^5$$

$$(0, \frac{7}{2}, 12, \frac{5}{2}, 0)$$

$$(5, 1, 7, 0, 0)$$

$$f_{(1,2,1,2,1)}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 12 & 5 \\ & 1 & 1 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \approx$$



## Some Related Past Work

- Lusztig (94): Studied totally nonneg. part in reductive groups (as image of map  $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_k)}$ ) & connected this to canonical bases
- Fomin-Shapiro (00): Results on Bruhat stratification of  $\text{im}(f_{(i_1, \dots, i_k)})$  & conjectured it is regular cw ball.
- H. (14): Proof of Fomin-Shapiro Conj.
- Gukshin-Karp-Lam (22): Totally Nonneg part of any flag variety is regular cw ball & F-S Conj via Poincaré Conjecture.
- Loosely related: Positroid varieties, cluster algebras, braid varieties...



## Some Motivations:

1. fibers of  $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_k)}$  encode nonneg. real relations among exponentiated Chevalley generators in Lie theory
2. "braid relations" among  $x_i$ 's:  
$$x_i(a)x_{i+1}(b)x_i(c) = x_{i+1}\left(\frac{bc}{a+c}\right)x_i(b+c)x_{i+1}\left(\frac{ab}{a+c}\right)$$
  
tropicalize to change of coords  
$$(a, b, c) \mapsto \left( b+c, \min(a, c), a+b, -\min(a, c) \right)$$
  
for Lusztig's dual canonical bases.

Fiber Stratification: for each  $p \in \text{TNN}(U_n)$ , the stratification on  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^d$  based on which coordinates are positive and which are 0 induces stratification for  $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_k)}^{-1}(p) \cap \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^d$

# Baby Example of Fiber ( $\neq$ how we Think About It)

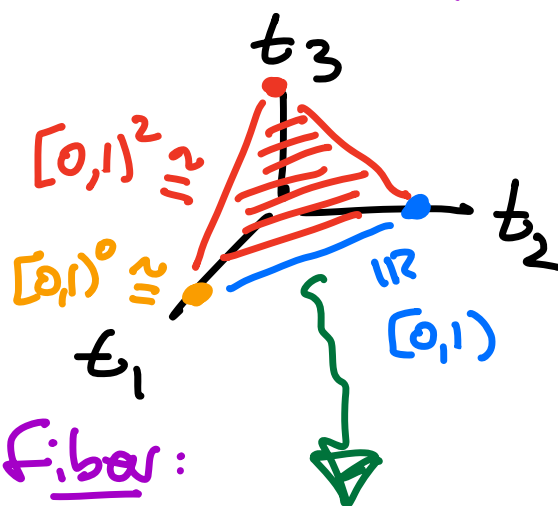
$$\underbrace{x_1(t_1)}_{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}} \underbrace{x_1(t_2)}_{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_2 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}} \underbrace{x_1(t_3)}_{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_3 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}} = \underbrace{x_1(5)}_{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}}$$

$$\parallel$$

$$x_1(t_1 + t_2 + t_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 + t_2 + t_3 & 0 \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\parallel$$

$$f_{(1,1,1)}(t_1, t_2, t_3)$$



Natural Description of Fiber:

$$f_{(1,1,1)}^{-1}(x_1(5)) = \left\{ (t_1, t_2, t_3) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^3 \mid \sum_{i=1}^3 t_i = 5 \right\}$$

# More Useful Description (for giving a cell decomposition)

$$f_{(1,1,1)}^{-1} \left( \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & s \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{(x_1(s))} \right)$$

$$\{ (t_1, t_2, t_3) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^3 \mid \begin{cases} 0 \leq t_1 \leq 5 \\ 0 \leq t_2 \leq 5 - t_1 \\ t_3 = 5 - t_1 - t_2 \end{cases} \}$$

Sample Statement:

$$0 < t_1 < 5$$

range  $(0, K)$  of values  
for  $K > 0$

$$t_3 = 5 - t_1 - t_2$$

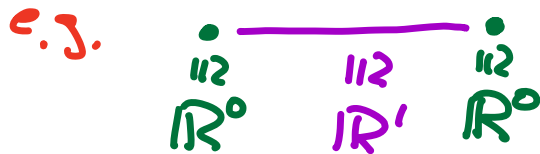
cont. fn of  $t_1, t_2$

$$0 < t_2 < 5 - t_1$$

range  $(0, t_2^{\max})$  for  $t_2^{\max} = 5 - t_1$  } cont. fn  
of  $t_1$

Note:  $t_3$  is in rightmost reduced word for  $s_1$  in  $(1,1,1)$  so determined by parameters to its left

- A **cell decomposition** of topol. space  $X$  is decomp. into disjoint union of cells, namely pieces homeom. to  $(0,1)^S \cong \mathbb{R}^S$  for various  $S \geq 0$



- A **cell stratification** is cell decomp. with  $\sigma \cap \bar{\tau} \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \sigma \subseteq \bar{\tau}$
- The **face poset** of a cell stratific. is partial order on cells with  $\sigma \leq \tau \iff \sigma \subseteq \bar{\tau}$



# Main Results for fibers

## Topological

- each stratum is homeomorphic to  $(0,1)^S$  for some  $S \geq 0$ .
- parametrizations for points in unions of strata showing these are each homeomorphic to  $[0,1)^S$
- cells form cell stratification

## Combinatorial:

- same face poset as interior dual block complex of subword complex
- these interior dual block complexes are contractible regular CW complexes

## Conjectural

- $f_{(q-id)}^{-1}(p)$  is regular CW complex.

Necessary Condition for points to be  
in Same Fiber: Supports have same  
Demazure Product

$$x_i(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & 1+t & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} = I_n + tE_{i,i+1}$$

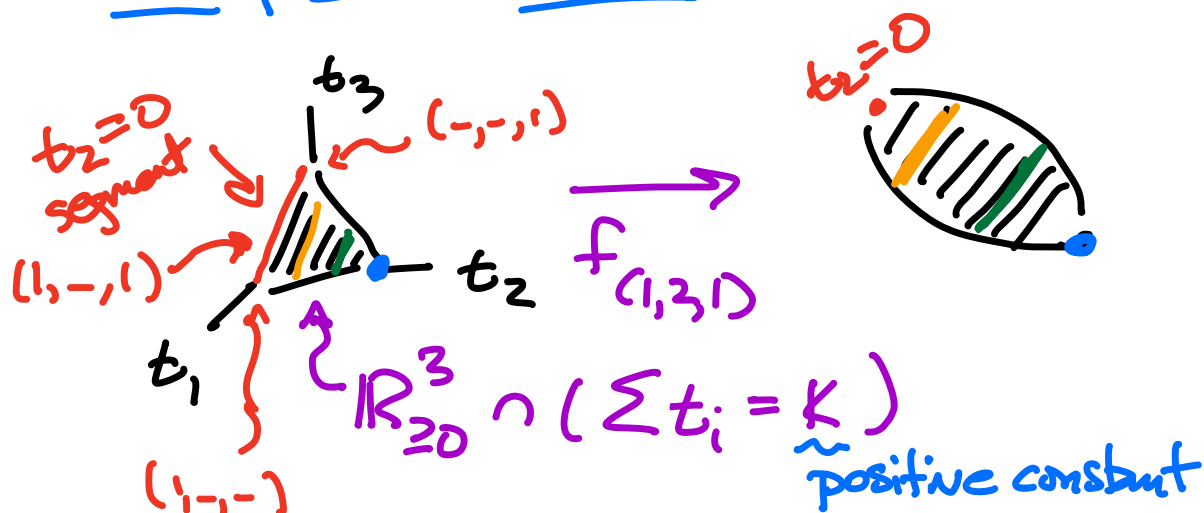
(type A)

$$f_{(\underbrace{i_1, \dots, i_d}_{\uparrow \text{ reduced or nonreduced word}})}(t_1, \dots, t_d) = x_{i_1}(t_1) \cdots x_{i_d}(t_d)$$

e.g.

$$\begin{aligned} f_{(1,2,1)}(t_1, t_2, t_3) &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_2 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_3 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1+t_3 & t_1 t_2 \\ & 1 & t_2 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

# Example Continued



$$f_{(1,2,1)}(t_1, t_2, t_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & t_2 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & t_3 \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$t_2=0$

$$f_{(1,-1,1)}(t_1, 0, t_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1 & t_3 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1+t_3 \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \} x_1(t_1+t_3)$$

$$\{ x_1(t) | t > 0 \} = \{ x_1(t_1) x_1(t_3) | t_1, t_3 > 0 \}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$x_i = x_i^2 \quad (\text{unsigned U-Hecke algebra or "Demazure" product})$$

Demazure Product  $\delta$  (a.k.a. Unsigned  
O-Hecke Algebra Product) Governs  
Which Minors are Positive

$$\bullet x_i(t_1) x_i(t_2) = x_i(t_1 + t_2)$$

$$x_i x_i \rightarrow x_i$$

$$[\delta(s_i, s_i) = s_i]$$

"modified  
nil move"

$$\bullet x_i(t_1) x_{i+1}(t_2) x_i(t_3) = x_{i+1}(t'_1) x_i(t'_2) x_{i+1}(t'_3)$$

$$\text{for } t'_1 = \frac{t_2 t_3}{t_1 + t_3} \quad t'_2 = t_1 + t_3 \quad t'_3 = \frac{t_1 t_2}{t_1 + t_3}$$

$$x_i x_{i+1} x_i \rightarrow x_{i+1} x_i x_{i+1} \quad \text{"braid move"}$$

$$[\delta(s_i, s_{i+1}, s_i) = \delta(s_{i+1}, s_i, s_{i+1})]$$

$$\bullet x_i(t) x_j(u) = x_j(u) x_i(t)$$

$$x_i x_j = x_j x_i$$

$$[\delta(s_i, s_j) = \delta(s_j, s_i)]$$

for  $|j-i| > 1$



The **Demazure product** for  
Coxeter group  $W$  satisfies

$$\delta(s_{i_1}, s_{i_2}, \dots, s_{i_d}) = \begin{cases} \delta(s_{i_2}, \dots, s_{i_d}) & \text{if} \\ l(u) < l(s_{i_1}u) & \\ s_{i_1} \delta(s_{i_2}, \dots, s_{i_d}) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where

$$u = \delta(s_{i_2}, \dots, s_{i_d})$$

e.g.  $\delta(1, 2, 1, 2, 1) = s_1 s_2 s_1$

Facts:

subword of positive parameters  
for this statum

$$1. f_{(i, -u)}(R^Q_{>0}) = f_{(i, -id)}(R^{Q'}_{>0})$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \delta(Q) = \delta(Q')$$

2.  $\delta$  is equivalent to unsigned  
0-Hecke algebra product

Notation:  $U(\omega) := f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}(\mathbb{R}_{>0}^Q)$

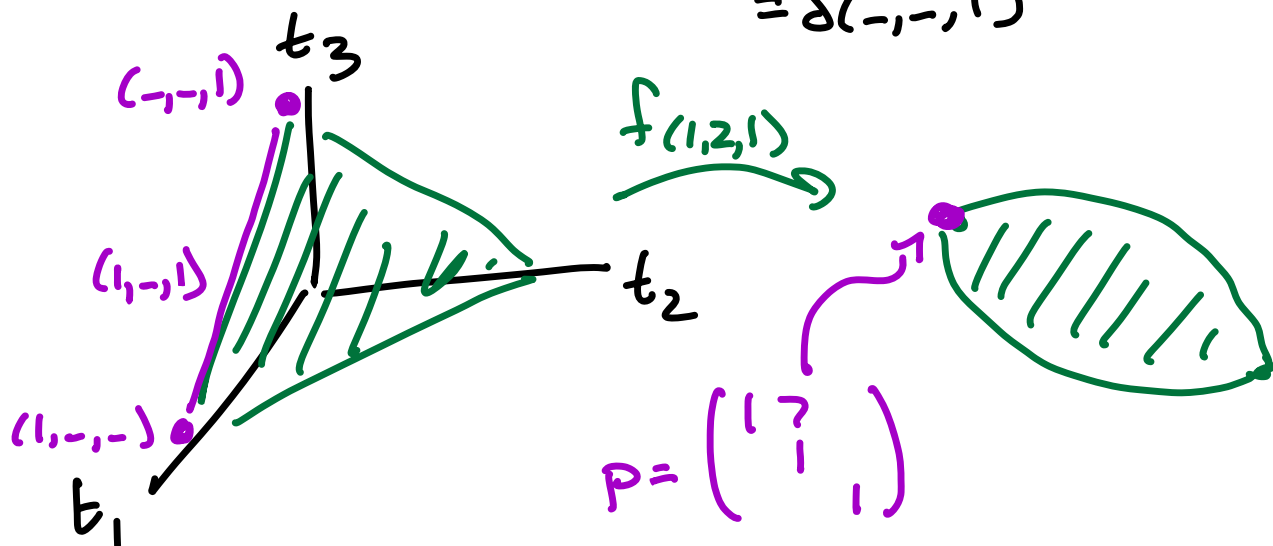
for  $\omega = \delta(Q)$ .

"  
 $[B^{-1}\omega B^{-1} \cap \text{unipotent subgp of } B]_{\geq 0}$

e.g.  $f_{(1,2,1)}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 7 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  has nonempty

strata given by subwords  $(1, -, -)$ ,  $(1, -, 1)$ ,  $(-, -, 1)$  of  $(1, 2, 1)$  since

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 7 \\ 1 & \end{pmatrix} \in U(s_i)$  for  $s_i = \delta(1, -, 1)$   
 $= \delta(1, -, -)$   
 $= \delta(-, -, 1)$



Thm (Lusztig):

- (a)  $(i_1, \dots, i_d)$  reduced  $\neq w = \delta(i_1, \dots, i_d) \Rightarrow$   
 $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}: \mathbb{R}_{>0}^d \rightarrow U(w)$  is homeomorphism.
- (b)  $U(w) \cap U(w') = \emptyset$  for  $w \neq w'$ .


A Key Step in Cell Stratif. for Fibers:

Substantially generalize (a) above,

e.g. show that map

$$(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4) \mapsto x_4(1) x_2(s) \underline{x_4(t_1)} x_1(3) \underline{x_2(t_2)} \underline{x_1(t_3)} \underline{x_2(t_4)}$$

$\cap$   
 $\mathbb{R}_{>0}^4$


  
 rightmost reduced word for  
 $\delta(4,2,4,1,2,1,2) = s_4 s_2 s_1 s_2$  in  $(4, \underline{2}, \underline{4}, \underline{1}, \underline{2}, \underline{1}, \underline{2})$

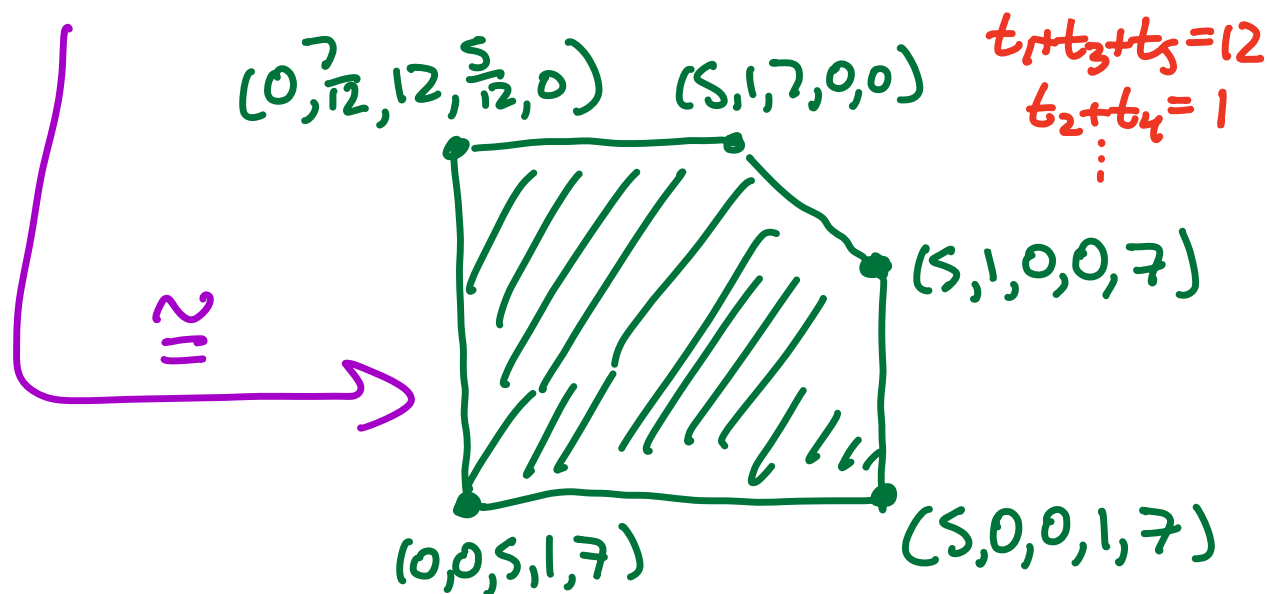
is homeomorphism from  $\mathbb{R}_{>0}^4$  to its image

## Example of Fiber (Revisited):

$$f_{(1,2,1,2,1)}(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_5) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_2 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \dots$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 + t_3 + t_5 & t_1 t_2 + t_1 t_4 + t_3 t_4 \\ & 1 & t_2 + t_4 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$f_{(1,2,1,2,1)}^{-1}(M) \text{ for } M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 9 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 7 \\ & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



vertices  $\leftrightarrow$  reduced words for  $S, S_2 S_1$  within  $(1, 2, 1, 2, 1)$

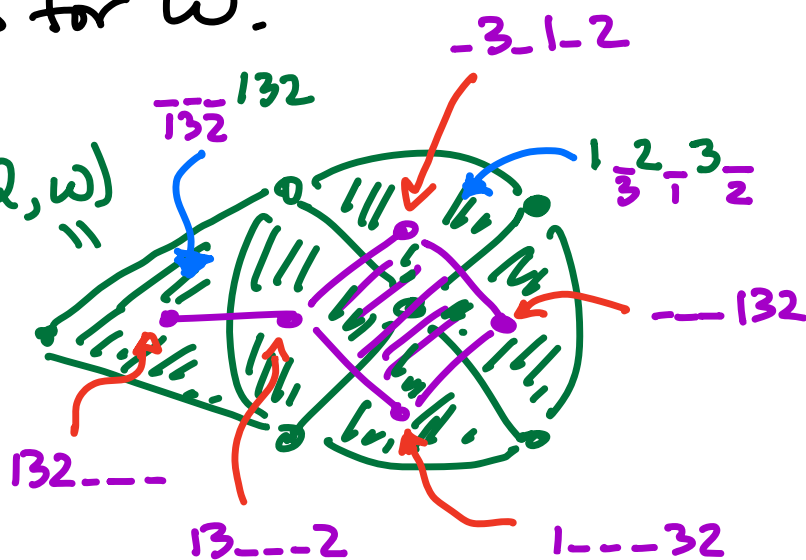
# Subword Complexes & their Interior Dual Block Complexes

Defn (Knutson-Miller): The **subword complex**  $\Delta(Q, w)$  has letters in  $Q$  as vertices & has as its facets the complements of subwords of  $Q$  that are reduced words for  $w$ .

e.g.

$Q = (1, 3, 2, 1, 3, 2)$

$w = s_1 s_3 s_2$

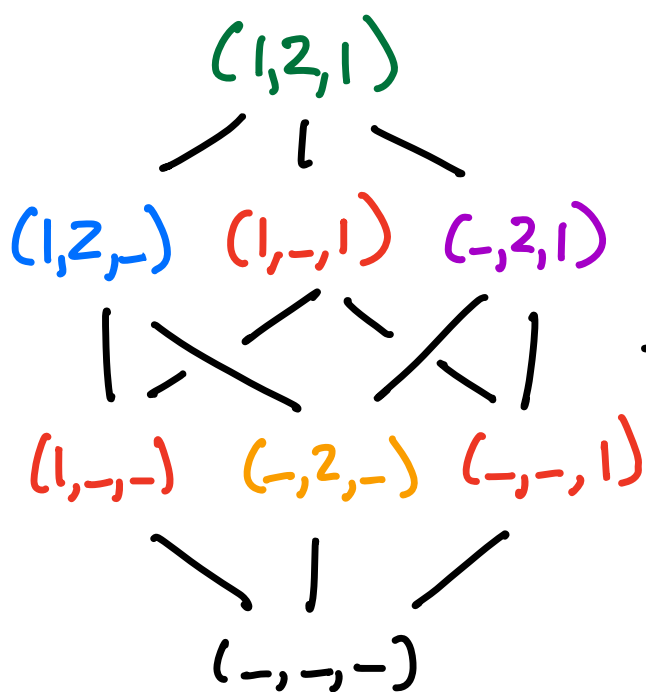


- interior dual block complex in purple

Thm (DHM): For  $p \in U(\omega)$ ,  
 $f_{(i_1, \text{id})}^{-1}(p)$  has same face poset  
 as the interior dual block  
 complex of  $\Delta((i_1, \text{id}), \omega)$ .

Thm (DHM): The interior dual  
 block complex (IDBC) of every  
 subuniversal complex is regular CW  
 complex & is contractible.

Idea: Map  $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}$  of Topol. Spaces induces Map of Face Posets



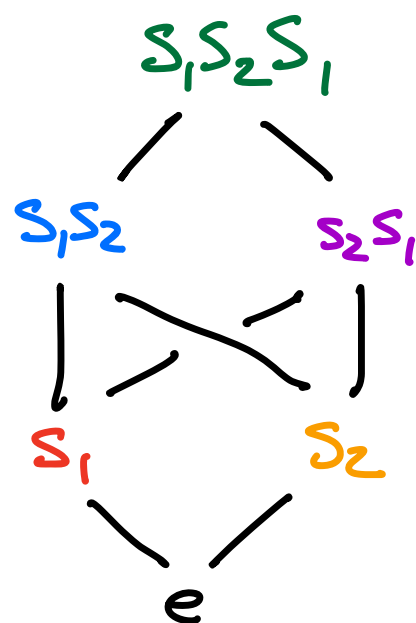
Boolean lattice

face poset of simplex

Danilov product

$$f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)} = \delta(s_{i_1, \dots, i_d})$$

e.g.  $f(1, -, 1) = \delta(s_1, s_1) = s_1$



Brhat order  
face poset of  
 $TNN(U_n)$

## Some Properties of Subword Complexes

Knutson-Miller: Each subword complex is vertex decomposable, hence shellable & pure.

$\Delta(i_1, \dots, i_d), \omega) \cong \text{sphere}$  if  $\delta(i_1, \dots, i_d) = \omega$

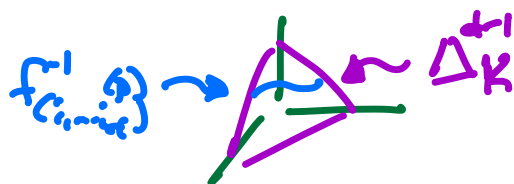
$\Delta(i_1, \dots, i_d), \omega) \cong \text{ball}$  if  $\delta(i_1, \dots, i_d) \neq \omega$

Corollary: They are gallery connected, i.e. max faces connected thru codimension one faces.





Application:



$$f_{(t_1, \dots, t_d)}^{-1}(p) \cap R_{\geq 0}^d = f_{(t_1, \dots, t_d)}^{-1}(p) \cap \Delta_K^{d-1}$$

for some  $K > 0$

coord.  
Sum  $K$   
Part of  
 $R_{\geq 0}^d$

Proof:

- show change of coord's

$$(t_1, \dots, t_d) \mapsto (t'_1, \dots, t'_d) \text{ for}$$

braid & modified nil moves preserve  
sum of parameters

e.g.  $x_1(t_1)x_1(t_2) \mapsto x_1(t_1+t_2) \quad K=t_1+t_2$

- use gallery-connectedness of  
subword complexes + Matsumoto's  
Theorem to show state connected  
by braid & modified nil-moves.

## Parametrizing Points in Unions of Strata

- Consider rightmost subword  $Q$  of  $(i_1, \dots, i_d)$  that is reduced word for  $\delta(i_1, \dots, i_d)$

e.g.  $(3, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2)$

- Parametrize the points in those strata satisfying  $t_1, t_3, t_6, t_7 > 0$  in  $f^{-1}((3, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2))^{(p)} \subseteq U(S_3 S_2 S_1 S_2)$  using the set  $[0, 1)^3$  as follows:

$t_1, t_5, t_6, t_7 > 0 \Leftrightarrow t_2, t_3, t_4$  satisfy:

$$t_2 \in [0, t_2^{\max}) \cong [0, 1)$$

$$t_3 \in [0, t_3^{\max}(t_2)) \cong [0, 1)$$

$$t_4 \in [0, t_4^{\max}(t_2, t_3)) \cong [0, 1)$$

contin.  
fn of  $t_2$

continuous  
function of  $t_2, t_3$

e.g.,

$$x_3(t_1) x_1(t_2) x_2(t_3) x_1(t_4) x_2(t_5) x_1(t_6) x_2(t_7)$$

choice of  
(nonmax.) values  $\cong [0, 1)$

values determined  
by other params

# Cell Stratification: Key Lemmas (+ Definitions)

Def'n: Consider word  $(i_1, \dots, i_d)$ .

The letter  $i_x$  is **redundant** in  $(i_1, \dots, i_d)$  if  $\delta(i_1, \dots, i_d) = \delta(i_1, \dots, \hat{i}_x, \dots, i_d)$  and **nonredundant** otherwise.

e.g.  $\delta(1, 2, 1, 2) = s_2 s_1 s_2 = \delta(2, 1, 2) + \delta(1, 2, 2)$

Note:

(1)  $i_1$  nonredundant  $\Leftrightarrow$

$$\delta(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_d) = s_{i_1} \delta(i_2, \dots, i_d)$$

(2)  $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}(k_1, \dots, k_d) = p \Leftrightarrow f_{(i_2, \dots, i_d)}(k_2, \dots, k_d) = x_{i_1}(k_1) p$

Lemma: If  $i_1$  is nonredundant in  $(i_1, \dots, i_d)$ , then there is unique value  $k_1$  for  $t_1$  s.t.

$$f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}(k_1, t_2, \dots, t_d) = p$$

has a solution.

allows  
"reduction  
step"

This has  $x_{i_1}(-k_1)p \in U(\delta(i_2, \dots, i_d))$

Lemma: If  $i_1$  is redundant in  $(i_1, \dots, i_d)$ , then there exists  $t_1^{\max} > 0$  s.t.  $f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}(k_1, t_2, \dots, t_d) = p$  has solution  $\Leftrightarrow k_1 \in [0, t_1^{\max}]$ .

Moreover,  $k_1 \in [0, t_1^{\max})$

implies  $x_{i_1}(-k_1)p \in U(\delta(i_2, \dots, i_d))$ .

allows  
"reduction  
step"

Useful Characterization of which  
Parameters are Nonredundant (so  
Uniquely Determined Value)

Lemma:  $S^c = \{j_1, \dots, j_s\} \subseteq \{1, \dots, d\}$

indexes rightmost reduced word  
 for  $\delta(i_1, \dots, i_d)$  in  $(i_1, \dots, i_d) \triangleleft \Rightarrow$

$$S^c = \{j \in [d] \mid i_j \text{ nonredundant in } (i_j, \dots, i_d)\}$$

e.g.  $(1, 2, 1, 2, 4, 1, 5, 2, 4, 5)$   $d=10$

$S^c$

$S^c = \{4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$  since  $(2, 1, 5, 2, 4, 5)$   
 is rightmost reduced word for  $\delta(1, 2, 1, \dots, 4, 5)$

Notation:  $S = \{j'_1, \dots, j'_d\}$   
 $S^c = \{j_1, \dots, j_s\}$

$S = \{1, 2, 3, 5\}$

# Domain for Homeom. from $[0,1]^{d-s}$ to Union of Strata

Notation for Domain:

$$D^{<\max} :=$$

$$\left\{ (t_1, \dots, t_d) \in f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p) \mid \begin{array}{l} t_j < t_j^{\max}(t_1, \dots, t_{j-1}) \\ \text{for all } j \in S \end{array} \right\}$$

Thm (DHM):  $D^{<\max} = \bigcup_{\substack{\sigma // \\ [0,1]^{d-\ell(\omega)}}} \text{Strata } \sigma \text{ s.t. } v \in \overline{\sigma} \\ \text{for } \underbrace{v}_{\text{rightmost real word}} \text{ of support } S^c$

Corollary: Each stratum is homeomorphic to  $(0,1)^i$  for some  $i \geq 0$ .

## First Example, Revisited

$$x_1(t_1)x_1(t_2)x_1(t_3) = x_1(5)$$

$$f_{(1,1,1)}''(t_1, t_2, t_3)$$

$D^{<\max}$  part of fiber (i.e.  $t_3 > 0$  part)

- $0 \leq t_1 < t_1^{\max} = 5$
- $0 \leq t_2 < t_2^{\max}(k_1) = 5 - k_1$
- $t_3 = 5 - k_1 - k_2 = "f_3"(k_1, k_2)$

$$[0,1)^2 \cong \sum_{\substack{\sim \\ [0,1)}} \sum_{\substack{\sim \\ [0,1)}} (k_1, k_2, k_3) \left| \begin{array}{l} 0 \leq k_1 < 5 \\ 0 \leq k_2 < 5 - k_1 \\ k_3 = 5 - k_1 - k_2 \end{array} \right. \right\}$$

this uses continuity of  $t_2^{\max} \doteq f_3$   
? well-definedness of  $f_3$  (discussed next)



# Generalization of Lusztig Result

Lemma: Given  $\delta(i, -1_d) = w \neq 1$  &  $D_{k_{j_1}, \dots, k_{j_s}} :=$

$$\left\{ (t_1, \dots, t_d) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^d \mid \begin{array}{l} t_{j'_i} > 0 \text{ for } j'_i \in S^c \\ t_{j_r} = k_{j_r} \text{ for } j_r \in S \end{array} \right\}$$

for any fixed  $k_{j_1}, \dots, k_{j_s} \geq 0$ , then

$f_{(i, -1_d)}|_{D_{k_{j_1}, \dots, k_{j_s}}}$  is a homeomorphism to its image within  $U(w)$ .

e.g.

$$D_{3,7} \cong \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^4$$

$$\in U(s_4 s_1 s_2 s_1)$$

$$(t_2, t_4, t_5, t_6) \mapsto x_1(3)x_4(t_2)x_2(7)x_1(t_4)x_2(t_5)x_1(t_6)$$

(since  $\delta(1, 4, 2, 1, 2, 1) = s_4 s_1 s_2 s_1$ )

Consequence: Within  $D^{\leq \max}$  the redundant parameter values determine the nonredundant parameter values.

# Continuity Lemmas

Lemma: If  $i_\ell$  non-redundant in  $(i_\ell, \dots, i_d)$  and  $k_1, \dots, k_{\ell-1} \geq 0$  satisfy

$$(1) k_i < t_i^{\max}(k_1, \dots, k_{i-1}) \quad \forall i < l \text{ with } i \in S$$

$$(2) \exists (k_1, \dots, k_{l-1}, t_1, \dots, t_d) \in f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p) \cap \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

then  $f_e$  is continuous for  $f_e(k_1, \dots, k_{e-1}) = k_e$   
with  $(k_1, \dots, k_{e-1}, k_e, \dots, k_d) \in f_{(c_i, -id)}^{-1}(p) \cap \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^d$ .

e.g.  $f_{(1,2,1,2)}^{-1} \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 7 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right)$   
 $\{ (t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4) \mid f_{(1,2,1,2)}(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 8 & 35 \\ 1 & 7 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \}$

- $t_1^{\max} = 5$

- $f_3(k_1, k_2) = 8 - k_1$

$$\bullet f_2(k_1) = \frac{21}{8-k_1}$$

- $f_4(k_1, k_2, k_3) = 7 - k_2$

Lemma: If  $i_e$  is redundant in  $(i_e, \dots, i_d)$ ,  
 then  $t_e^{\max}$  is continuous fn of  $k_1, \dots, k_{e-1}$

Proof Idea:

$$\begin{array}{cc}
 \underbrace{t_e^{\max}(k_1, \dots, k_{e-1})}_{\text{for } f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p)} = \underbrace{f_e(k_1, \dots, k_{e-1})}_{\text{for } f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d, Q)}^{-1}(p) \text{ where } (i_e, Q) \text{ is reduced word for } \delta(i_e, \dots, i_d)}
 \end{array}$$

So  $f_e$  continuous  $\Rightarrow t_e^{\max}$  continuous

Example:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & f_{(1, \underline{1}, 1, 2)}(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4) = \\
 & t_2^{\max}(k_1) = 7 - k_1 \quad (\text{for } f_{(1, \underline{1}, 1, 2)}^{-1}(p)) \quad \underbrace{x_1(7) x_2(5)}_P \\
 & \parallel \quad f_{(1, \underline{1}, -, 2)}(t_1, t_2, -, t_4) = \\
 & f_2(k_1) \quad \left( \text{for } f_{(1, \underline{1}, -, 2)}^{-1}(p) \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Remark: We focus on  $D^{\leq \max}$  because  $t_\emptyset = k_\emptyset^{\max}$  part has seemingly unmanageable structure/combinatorics.

Summary:  $[0,1]^S \xrightarrow{\cong} \bigcup_{\emptyset \leq \sigma \leq \bar{c}} \sigma$  which restricts to  $(0,1)^S \xrightarrow{\cong} \bar{c}$ , showing each stratum is open ball.

An Open Qn: Given word  $Q$ , subword  $(i_j, \dots, i_{j_e})$  that is reduced word for  $S(Q)$  and constants  $\{k_j \geq 0 \mid j \in \{i_1, \dots, i_{j_e}\}\}$ , is  $h$  given by  $(t_{i_1}, \dots, t_{i_{j_e}}) \mapsto f_Q(u_1, \dots, u_d)$  for  $u_j = \begin{cases} t_j & \text{if } j \in \{i_1, \dots, i_{j_e}\} \\ k_j & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$  a homeomorphism to  $\text{im}(h)$ ?

e.g.  $(t_1, t_4, t_5) \mapsto x_1(t_1)x_2(3)x_1(2)x_2(t_4)x_1(t_5)$

Conjecture (Davis-H.-Miller):

For each  $w \in W$  and each  $p \in U(w)$ ,

$f_{(i_1, \dots, i_k)}^{p-1}(p) \cap \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^d$  is regular and

complex homeomorphic to the  
interior dual block complex of the  
subword complex  $\Delta((i_1, \dots, i_k), w)$ .

Thanks for Listening!



Lemma: Given  $i_j$  nonredundant in  $(i_j, \dots, i_d) \nmid$  given  $k_1, \dots, k_{j-1} \geq 0$  s.t.

$$x_{i_{j-1}}(-k_{j-1}) \dots x_{i_1}(-k_1) p \in U(\delta(i_j, \dots, i_d))$$

then there is a unique value

$$k_j = f_j(k_1, \dots, k_{j-1}) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \text{ for } t_j \text{ s.t.}$$

$$f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}(k_1, k_2, \dots, k_{j-1}, k_j, t_{j+1}, \dots, t_d) = p$$

has solution with  $t_{j+1}, \dots, t_d \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ .

e.g.  $f_{(1,2,1,2)}^{-1}(x_1(5) \underbrace{x_2(7) x_1(3)})$

has  $t_1 \in [0, 5]$  and

$$\bullet f_2(k_1) = \frac{21}{8-k_1} = "k_2"$$

$$\bullet f_3(k_1, k_2) = 8 - k_1 \quad \bullet f_4(k_1, k_2, k_3) = 7 - k_2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 8 & 35 \\ & 1 & 7 \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Lemma: Given  $i_j$  redundant in  $(i_j, \dots, i_d)$   $\nexists$  any  $k_1, \dots, k_{d-1} \geq 0$  s.t.

$$x_{i_{j-1}}(-k_{d-1}) - x_{i_j}(-k_1) \notin U(\delta(i_j, \dots, i_d))$$

then  $t_j$  takes exactly the values in  $[0, K]$  for some  $K > 0$ .

" $t_j^{\max}(k_1, \dots, k_{j-1})$ "

Example:  $M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \pi & e \\ & 1 & \frac{e}{14} \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  then

$$f_{(1,2,1,2)}^{-1}(M)$$

$$\{(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4) \mid x_1(t_1)x_2(t_2)x_1(t_3)x_2(t_4) = M\}$$

achieves every  $t_1 \in [0, \frac{e}{14}]$   
 $\nwarrow$   
 $t_1^{\max}$



Equations w/ Unique Solution (by Lusztig)

$$(t_1, t_4, t_5) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ & 1 \\ & & s_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_4 \\ & 1 \\ & & s_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_5 \\ & 1 \\ & & s_1 \end{pmatrix} = M$$

$\hat{U}(s_1, s_2, s_1)$

$$t_1 + t_5 = \underbrace{M_{12}}_{\text{"s}_1\text{" minor}} \quad t_4 = \underbrace{M_{23}}_{\text{"s}_2\text{" minor}} \quad t_1 t_4 = \underbrace{M_{13}}_{\text{"s}_1 s_2\text{" minor}}$$

Modified Equations for:

$$(t_1, t_4, t_5) \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_1 \\ & 1 \\ & & s_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ & 1 \\ & & s_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ & 1 \\ & & s_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_4 \\ & 1 \\ & & s_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t_5 \\ & 1 \\ & & s_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$M \equiv x_1(t_1) x_2(3) x_1(2) x_2(t_4) x_1(t_5)$

$\underbrace{s_1 \quad s_2}_{s_1 s_2} \quad \underbrace{s_1 \quad s_2}_{s_1 s_2} \quad s_1$   
 $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{s_1 s_2}$

$$t_1 + 2 + t_5 = \underbrace{M_{12}}_{\text{"s}_1\text{" minor}}$$

$$3 + t_4 = \underbrace{M_{23}}_{\text{"s}_2\text{" minor}}$$

$$t_1 \cdot 3 + t_1 t_4 + 2 t_4 = \underbrace{M_{13}}_{\text{"s}_1 s_2\text{" minor}}$$

Idea for Continuity of  $f_\ell$ :

$$x_{i_1}(k_1) \dots x_{i_{\ell-1}}(k_{\ell-1}) x_{i_\ell}(t_\ell) \dots x_{i_d}(t_d) = p$$



$$x_{i_\ell}(t_\ell) \dots x_{i_d}(t_d) = x_{i_{\ell-1}}(-k_{\ell-1}) \dots x_{i_1}(-k_1) p$$

$$\text{so } \{(t_\ell, \dots, t_d) | (k_1, \dots, k_{\ell-1}, t_\ell, \dots, t_d) \in f_{(i_1, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(p)\}$$

||

$$f_{(i_\ell, \dots, i_d)}^{-1}(\underbrace{x_{i_{\ell-1}}(-k_{\ell-1}) \dots x_{i_1}(-k_1) p}_{\text{continuous function of } k_1, \dots, k_{\ell-1} \text{ for fixed } p})$$